

PATENT APPLICATION  
Docket No: 16497.1.1.3

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Michael T. Carley, et al. )  
Serial No: 10/617,090 ) Art Unit  
Confirmation No.: 1941 ) 3731  
Filed: July 9, 2003 )  
For: CLOSURE DEVICE AND METHODS FOR )  
MAKING AND USING THEM )  
Examiner: Daniel J. Davis )

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**

Dear Sir:

Applicants agree with the Examiner that the claimed invention is patentable over the cited references, but respectfully disagree with the Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance as set forth in the communication mailed on October 5, 2005. Applicants submit that it is the claim as a whole, rather than any particular limitation, that makes each of the claims in the above-identified application allowable. No single limitation should be construed as the reason for allowance of a claim because it is each of the elements of the claim that makes it allowable.

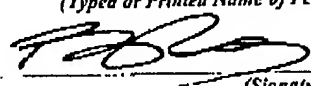
Respectfully submitted,

Dated: December 5, 2005

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<b>CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION BY FACSIMILE (37 CFR 1.8)</b>			Docket No. 16497.1.1.3
Applicant(s): Michael T. Carley, et al.			
Application No. 10/617,090	Filing Date 07/09/2003	Examiner DAVIS, DANIEL J.	Group Art Unit 3731
Invention: CLOSURE DEVICE AND METHODS FOR MAKING AND USING THEM			
<p>I hereby certify that this _____ <u>Issue Fee*</u> _____ (Identify type of correspondence)</p> <p>is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (Fax. No. <u>(571) 273-2885</u>)</p> <p>on <u>December 5, 2005</u> (Date)</p> <p><u>FRASER D. ROY</u> (Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate)</p> <p> (Signature)</p>			
<p>Note: Each paper must have its own certificate of mailing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Transmittal of Issue Fee (1 page)</li><li>• PTO Form PTOL-85 Part B - Fee Transmittal (1 page)</li><li>• PTO-2038 Credit Card Form in the amount of \$1,745.00 (1 page)</li><li>• Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance (1 page)</li><li>• Certificate of Facsimile (1 page)</li></ul>			

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